

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 6-10, 12-13 and 24 as shown below.

Please **ADD** claims 49-55 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~preventing HIV infection in a subject in need thereof,~~ comprising~~[[:]]~~ administering ~~an effective amount of a vaccinia virus, wherein said amount is in an effective amount at least to prevent diminish the replication at least of CCR5-tropic HIV in a subject infection, with the proviso that HIV nucleic acid is not contained within the vaccinia virus genome.~~

2-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said subject has been exposed at least to said HIV virus or is at risk for exposure at least to said HIV.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, further comprising administering a second effective amount of ~~[[a]]~~ said vaccinia virus at a predetermined time interval following the administering of ~~the~~ said first amount.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said vaccinia virus ~~is~~ comprises an attenuated vaccinia virus.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said ~~poxvirus~~ vaccinia virus is administered at least through the mucosa.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said vaccinia virus utilizes a CCR5 chemokine receptor ~~for entry into a cell.~~

11. (Original) A method of claim 1, further comprising monitoring the HIV status of said subject.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, where said ~~poxvirus~~ vaccinia virus has been assayed for its ability at least to diminish the replication at least of ~~interfere with~~ said HIV infection.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein ~~the preventing~~ said diminishing the replication at least of said HIV infection is not a result of at least one of an antibody and a cytotoxic T-lymphocyte (CTL)~~an immunological response to a vaccinia virus~~ poxvirus antigen.

14-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of treating HIV infection in a subject in need thereof,~~ comprising~~[[:]]~~ administering multiple doses to a subject, each ~~having of said dose including~~ an effective amount of an attenuated vaccinia virus to a subject infected with HIV, wherein ~~said amount is effective~~ at least to treat diminish the replication at least of CCR5-tropic HIV in the subject. ~~infection and wherein each dose is administered at a predetermined time interval from the previous dose, and are effective~~

~~to maintain protection against HIV infection~~

25-41. (Canceled)

42. (Withdrawn) A method of making a vaccinia virus, composition for conferring resistance to HIV infection, comprising: preparing a composition comprising vaccinia virus, or a vaccinia virus component thereof, and determining that said composition confers resistance to HIV infection to an organism or cell challenged with it.

43. (Withdrawn) A method of claim 42, wherein said determining whether said composition confers resistance to HIV infection is accomplished by: challenging said organism, or cell, with infectious HIV, and detecting the expression in said organism or cells of gp120, HIV reverse transcriptase, p24, infectious HIV particles, and/or HIV nucleic acid.

44-48. (Canceled)

49. (New) A method of claim 24, wherein at least one of said dose is administered at a predetermined time interval from a previous dose.

50. (New) A method comprising providing a poxvirus in an effective amount at least to diminish the replication at least of CCR5-tropic HIV.

51. (New) A method of claim 50, wherein said poxvirus comprises a vaccinia virus.

52. (New) A method of claim 51, wherein said vaccinia virus utilizes a CCR5 chemokine receptor.

53. (New) A method of claim 51, wherein said vaccinia virus comprises an attenuated vaccinia virus.

54. (New) A method of claim 50, wherein said providing comprises administering multiple doses to a subject.

55. (New) A method of claim 50, wherein said providing comprises contacting at least one cell susceptible at least to said CCR5-tropic HIV with said poxvirus.